Docket No.: PF-0576-1 DIV

Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1652

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hillman et al.

Title:	EXTRA-CELLULAR ADHESIVE PROTEINS		
Serial No.:	09/747,804	Filing Date:	December 22, 2000
Examiner:	Hutson, R.	Group Art Unit:	1652

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action, dated January 27, 2003, setting a three-month term for response. Applicants request reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the following remarks.

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are listed below.

1. **(As once amended.)** An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and

b) a polypeptide comprising a naturally occurring amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, said naturally occurring amino acid sequence having extracellular adhesion activity.

2. **(As once amended.)** An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

6. A method for producing a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) culturing a cell under conditions suitable for expression of the polypeptide, wherein said cell is transformed with a recombinant polynucleotide, and said recombinant polynucleotide comprises a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 1, and

b) recovering the polypeptide so expressed.

13. **(As once amended.)** A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 and an excipient.

14. **(As once amended.)** A composition of claim 13, wherein the polypeptide comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

15. A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an agonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and

b) detecting agonist activity in the sample.

16. A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an antagonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and

b) detecting antagonist activity in the sample.